

REMARKS

The last Office Action has been carefully considered.

It is noted that claims 1 and 3-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) over the patent to Schneider.

Claims 6-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over the patent to Schneider.

At the same time, claim 2 is not rejected over the art.

The Examiner's indication of the allowability of claim 2 has been gratefully acknowledged.

In connection with this indication, claim 2 has been cancelled and its features have been introduced into claim 1.

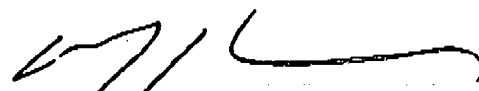
It is believed that claim 1 amended in this way should now be in allowable condition.

The retained dependent claims are dependent on claim 1, they share its presumably allowable features and therefore it is respectfully submitted that they should be allowed as well. Therefore, it is believed that the present application now contains only claims which are allowable.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application is most respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawings be further amended or corrected in formal respects in order to place this case in condition for final allowance, then it is respectfully requested that such amendments or corrections be carried out by Examiner's Amendment, and the case be passed to issue. Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance, he is invited to telephone the undersigned (at 631-549-4700).

Respectfully submitted,



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